

**CITY OF ST. CLAIR  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Doug Westphal at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the St. Clair City Hall, 304 Main Street West, St. Clair, Minnesota. Council Members present: Mayor Westphal, Julie Spear, Mike Hughes, Jerry Phillips and Tom Karels, Sr. Council Members absent: None. City Staff present: Dennis Seys, Catherine Seys and Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff. Others present: None.

The minutes of the January 6, 2009 Regular City Council meeting were approved with a motion by Spear, seconded by Phillips and carried with all in favor.

The bills for the month of January were approved with a motion by Hughes, seconded by Spear and carried with all in favor.

The City Clerk will contact the City Attorney regarding clarification of the Open Meeting Law.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. The Fire Dept. is submitting a grant to the MN Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR). If awarded the grant will be used towards pager replacement. Motion by Karels, seconded by Phillips to approve submission of the DNR grant. Motion carried with all in favor.
2. As per discussion with Mike Burkhardt (Auditor for the City) the City will require a resolution to accept donations to the Fire Dept. in the amount of \$500.00 and over. Donations less than \$500.00 will not require a resolution. Motion made by Karels, seconded by Spear and carried with all in favor.
3. Concrete was trimmed from the sidewalk in front of the Fire Dept. service door. The door is now in working order.
4. Fire Chief Fitzloff submitted report of Fire Dept. calls for 2008. The Fire Dept. responded to 101 calls in 2008.

ST. CLAIR FIRE DEPT. CALLS FOR 2008

CITY/TOWNSHIP	FIRE	MEDICAL	CO	1052	ALARM	TOTAL
CITY OF ST. CLAIR	3	14	1	0	3	1
DECORIA TOWNSHIP	2	14	0	2	2	20
LeRAY TOWNSHIP	0	2	0	2	0	4
MANKATO TOWNSHIP	9	16	1	8	0	34
McPHERSON TOWNSHIP	2	6	0	0	0	8
MEDO TOWNSHIP	0	3	0	0	0	3
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>MUTUAL AID GIVEN:</b> 1 = EAGLE LAKE 1 = GOOD THUNDER 3 = JANESVILLE 1 = MAPLETON 3 = PEMBERTON 2 = WALDORF			<b>TOTAL CALLS:</b> 90 <b>MUTUAL AID GIVEN:</b> 11 <b>MUTUAL AID RECEIVED:</b> 0 <b>TOTAL CALLS &amp; MUTUAL AID 2008:</b> 101			

5. Charles Grams is retiring from the Fire Dept. after 38 years of service. Mayor Westphal and the Council express their thanks and appreciation to Mr. Grams for his many years of service on the Fire Dept. With the retirement of Mr. Grams an opening exists on the Fire Dept. The Fire Dept. will be accepting application to fill the position.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Supervisor Dennis Seys reported on the following:

1. Snow hauling was done on all County streets on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.
2. Mr. Seys presented the Council with a letter outlining his concerns relating to the Water Treatment Facility in the event of a lengthy power outage and requested that the Council consider a generator for the facility. Currently the City has generators at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and at the Lift Station (located near the Post Office). The City does not have a generator at the Water Treatment Facility. The Council discussed the concerns and possible ways to defer the cost of a generator. Cost options discussed included a possible FEMA grant and sharing a generator with other cities (county-wide). It was discussed that generator size and other requirements need to be determined.

## CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. The Clerk presented an updated 2009 Budget which included year-end 2008 figures.
2. The Governor's Budget Proposal with proposed cuts to 2009 Local Government Aid (LGA) was discussed. The Governor's Proposal would cut \$19,334 in LGA to the City. According to the Governor's Proposal Market Value Homestead Credit (MVHC) received by the City in 2009 would be \$12,899 less than 2008. Options for cuts to the City 2009 Budget were also presented.
3. The Great River Energy Bicycle Festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009.
4. The Clerk presented a request submitted by Sheila Opsal, Community Ed Director, for Community Ed usage of Memorial Park for Summer and Fall 2009. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to approve the request. Motion carried with all in favor.
5. The Greater Mankato Events Calendar was briefly discussed.
6. Participation in MnWARN (Minnesota's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network) was discussed. The MnWARN Membership Information Form and Membership Application Questionnaire have been completed. The MnWARN Mutual Aid Agreement and MnWARN Resolution were presented for Council review. The Council will further consider participation in the program.
7. The Clerk requested permission to attend the Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MCFOA) annual conference being held March 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> in St. Cloud. Motion by Spear, seconded by Phillips to approve the request. Motion carried with all in favor.
8. Council tour of City facilities was discussed. The tour will be scheduled for this spring.
9. The South Central Safety Committee (SCSC) meeting scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> in Mapleton was cancelled due to inclement weather.

## COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Council Members Spear and Hughes reported on the Economic Development Authority (EDA) meeting held on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5 pm. Items discussed included bags for the Welcome Packet materials, walk-ability checklist for the Safe Route to School Grant and status of the Conditional Use Permit for the BellTower.
2. Council Member Hughes attended the January School Board Meeting. Council Member Phillips will attend the next School Board meeting on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm.
3. Mayor Westphal reported on the January Mayors and Clerks meeting. The group toured the new Justice Center in Mankato.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. Motion to adjourn made by Hughes, seconded by Phillips and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer